

**SECRET**

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R 131859Z APR 80

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 3402

INFO RUEHAL/AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA 2564

^RUQM06/AMEMBASSY NICOSIA - 7845

BT

EZ1:

SECRET STATE 098135

EZ2:

E.O. 12065: RDS-2 4/11/2000 (NEWSOM, DAVID)

TAGS: PINR, XG, ZP

SUBJECT: FBIS RECORDING

1. (S) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL INTEREST IN IMPROVING INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION OF THE MUSLIM WORLD HAS GENERATED ADDITIONAL TASKING FOR FBIS (FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE) OPEN SOURCE COLLECTION. CONGRESS HAS SUPPORTED THIS NEED WITH A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION.

3. INCLUDED IN THE FBIS PLAN IS IMPROVEMENT OF ITS REPORTING FROM LIBYAN AND SUDANESE RADIOS. FBIS WOULD LIKE TO ESTABLISH A SMALL RECORDING UNIT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ALEXANDRIA CONSULATE OR AT SOME OTHER U.S. SITE IN EGYPT, WITH THE IDEA OF FEEDING THE PROGRAMS OVER A COMMERCIAL LINE TO ITS BUREAU IN LONDON FOR TRANSLATION. WITH EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT APPROVAL, FBIS ESTIMATES THIS COULD BE DONE WITH THREE FOREIGN NATIONAL (LOCAL HIRE) EMPLOYEES, WITH FBIS TRAINING ENGINEERS INITIALLY TO ESTABLISH THE UNIT WHICH WOULD REQUIRE MINIMAL SPACE. THE TRANSLATED "TAKE" COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES BY FBIS TELETYPING MATERIAL BACK TO CAIRO FOR PASSING TO HOST GOVERNMENT. FBIS OFFICER WOULD BE WILLING TO VISIT EGYPT TO DISCUSS SPECIFICS OF THIS PLAN, AND AS A PRELIMINARY MATTER FBIS WOULD WANT TO CONDUCT A RECEPTION SURVEY BY U.S. STAFF TECHNICIAN TO MAKE CERTAIN THIS WOULD ACCOMPLISH DESIRED RESULTS.

4. FOR YOUR INFORMATION, IF GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS ACCEPTS A PENDING FBIS PROPOSAL FOR REMOTE MONITORING IN WESTERN CYPRUS (TO FBIS BUREAU IN NICOSIA) THE PROJECT ENVISAGED IN PARA. 3 ABOVE WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY. GOC HAS, HOWEVER, BEEN SLOW TO RESPOND TO FBIS REQUEST.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR EARLY RESPONSE TO THIS PROPOSAL.  
CHRISTOPHER

NNNN

NNDD

State Dept. review completed

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